

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

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NOVEMBER 2003 ELECTIONS

United States Attorney Paul I. Perez announced today that Robert Mosakowski, an Assistant United States Attorney in the Middle District of Florida, will lead the efforts of his Office in connection with the Justice Department's nationwide Election Day Program for the upcoming November 4, 2003 general elections. AUSA Mosakowski has been appointed to serve as the District Election Officer for the Middle District of Florida, and in that capacity is responsible for overseeing the District's handling of complaints of election fraud and voting rights abuses in consultation with Justice Department Headquarters.

On October 1st of last year, Attorney General Ashcroft established a Department-wide Voting Access and Integrity Initiative. The goals of this Initiative are to increase the Department's ability to deter election fraud and discrimination at the polls and to prosecute these offenses whenever they occur. The Department's long-standing Election Day Program is intended to ensure public confidence in the integrity of the election process by providing local points of contact within the Department where the public can report possible election fraud and voting rights violations while the polls are open on election day.

In order to respond to complaints of election fraud or violating abuses on November 4, 2003, and to ensure that such complaints are directed to the appropriate authorities, Mr. Perez stated that Assistant United States Attorney/DEO Mosakowski will be on duty in this District while the polls are open. They can be reached by the public at the following telephone number: 813/274-6129.

Mr. Perez said, "There are numerous local elections throughout Florida this November and it is essential that we ensure voting rights are protected. Anyone who has information suggesting voting fraud or voting rights violatons should immediately contact my office. We will promptly investigate and aggressively prosecute those who corrupt the voting process."